

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a postal item, whereby order data for a postal item that is to be printed and/or sent is generated in an order component, comprising the following steps:

receiving electronic order data;

breaking down the order data into address information of a recipient and a goods identification code;

preparing the address information in a form that can be linked to the goods;

linking the goods to the address information, and

delivering the goods linked to the address information as a postal item.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, comprising generating a postage indicium based on the address information of the recipient.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, comprising storing the order data in a transaction computer.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, comprising the transaction computer performing an automatic comparison between the stock of goods and one or more pending orders.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 3, comprising a warehouse management control unit transmitting the order data to ~~the~~ a material flow control transaction computer and the ~~transaction~~ material flow control computer controlling material flow in such a way that the goods and/or additional goods are placed into ~~packing~~ picking containers and/or directly into a transport container provided for the shipment as a postal item.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, comprising the transaction computer controlling an automated auction procedure.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 6, ~~comprising~~ wherein the transaction computer transmits the address information of the customer who placed the highest bid in the auction procedure to a computer of a seller who is offering the goods for sale at auction.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, comprising generating a postage indicium for the postal item in an automated process.

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 8, comprising controlling the generation of the postage indicium by a warehouse management control unit ~~the transaction computer~~.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, comprising controlling the generation of the postage indicium by a computer of the recipient.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, comprising notifying the recipient of the execution of the franking.

12. (Currently Amended) A device for generating a postal item,

comprising, in combination:

a means computer for receiving and storing address information and a goods identification code that identifies the goods;

~~a means for storing the address information and the goods identification code;~~

a means for linking the goods to the address information, and

a means postal service provider for delivering the goods linked to the address information as a postal item ~~to link the goods to the address information.~~

13. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 12,

wherein the means to link the goods to the address information is a printer.

14. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 12,

wherein the means to link the goods to the address information is a transmitter that is designed in such a way that it can transmit the address information to a transponder that can be affixed to the goods.